

Senate Resolution 620

By: Senator Thomas of the 54th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) and declaring Wednesday,
2 March 25, 2009, AVID Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) was developed in 1980 as
4 a college readiness program by Mary Catherine Swanson at Claremont High School; and

5 WHEREAS, the program began as an elective class taken during the regular school day
6 where students were held to the highest standards and provided with academic and social
7 support; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1992, the AVID Center was established as a nonprofit organization, and the
9 program has since evolved into a fourth through twelfth grade system of learning that
10 successfully prepares students for college readiness and eligibility; and

11 WHEREAS, from its humble beginnings in one high school with 32 students, the AVID
12 program has now expanded to 45 states, 15 countries, and 3,500 school districts, impacting
13 over 300,000 students; and

14 WHEREAS, AVID's systematic approach to learning is designed to support students, parents,
15 and educators as they increase school-wide and district-wide learning and performance; and

16 WHEREAS, public sector funding organizations, independent research, and AVID's own
17 data shows that AVID students are more likely to take honors and advance placement
18 classes, complete their college eligibility requirements, and be accepted into colleges; and

19 WHEREAS, AVID is in nine school districts and 47 schools in Georgia and impacts 10,000
20 Georgia students, families, and communities; and

21 WHEREAS, the students and school districts impacted by AVID in Georgia will continue
22 to experience dramatic growth in the next three years, in large part due to public-private
23 partnerships and the generous financial investment of Mr. Eric Swartz and the Swartz Greater
24 Atlanta Project for Children of Hope.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
26 commend the contributions of AVID to the community, state, and country and recognize
27 Wednesday, March 25, 2009, as AVID Day at the state capitol.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
29 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Eric Swartz and Dr. Barbara Smith.